

## STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a term referring to a group of

diseases that cause airflow obstruction and breathing-related problems, including

emphysema, chronic bronchitis, asthma, and severe bronchiectasis; and

WHEREAS: COPD is a chronic and progressive disease that affects an estimated 24 million people

nationwide, half of whom have not been properly diagnosed, and 70 percent of whom are

under the age of 65; and

WHEREAS: COPD is the third leading cause of death and the second leading cause of disability in the

United States; and

WHEREAS: In 2010, the estimated cost of COPD in the United States was \$49.9 billion in doctor

visits, emergency room visits, and hospitalizations, including \$630 million spent on

healthcare in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: The primary risk factor for COPD is smoking, while other risk factors include

environmental and workplace exposure to air pollutants, secondhand smoke, a history of

childhood respiratory infections, and genetic factors; and

WHEREAS: Concerted public outreach efforts such as a DRIVE4COPD, the nation's largest public

awareness and screening campaign for COPD, and the NHLBI's "COPD: Learn More Breathe Better Campaign," can dramatically improve public awareness of COPD; and

WHEREAS: Increased public awareness, early detection, and proper treatment are crucial to

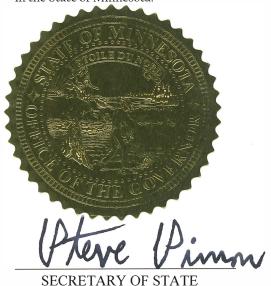
managing and slowing the progression of COPD, reducing costs, and improving quality

of life for those diagnosed with COPD.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2017, as:

## **COPD AWARENESS MONTH**

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October.

GOVERNOR